

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1117

By Kyle

A RESOLUTION to recognize Justice Stephen Gerald Breyer of the United States Supreme Court on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that we should honor those jurists who evidenced devotion to the law and our judicial system throughout their years on the bench in service to the citizens of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, Justice Stephen Gerald Breyer is one such noteworthy jurist who has served with distinction during his tenure as a member of the United States Supreme Court and will soon take his much-deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, born on August 15, 1938, in San Francisco, California, Justice Stephen Breyer is a graduate of Stanford University, Magdalen College at Oxford, and Harvard University; and

WHEREAS, a proud military veteran, Justice Breyer served eight years with the United States Army Reserve, including six months active duty with Army Strategic Intelligence, attaining the rank of corporal before receiving his honorable discharge in 1965; and

WHEREAS, after completing law school, Justice Stephen Breyer began his legal career as a law clerk to Associate Justice Arthur Goldberg of the United States Supreme Court from 1964 to 1965 and served briefly as a fact-checker for the Warren Commission; he spent two years in the U.S. Department of Justice's Antitrust Division as a special assistant to its Assistant Attorney General; and

WHEREAS, in 1967, he returned to Harvard Law School, where he taught until 1980, holding a joint appointment at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government from 1977 until 1980; during his years at Harvard, he became known as a leading expert on administrative law; and

WHEREAS, while at Harvard, he also took several leaves of absence to serve in the U.S. government, seeing duty as an assistant special prosecutor on the Watergate Special

Prosecution Force and as special counsel and later chief counsel to the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary; and

WHEREAS, Justice Stephen Breyer was first nominated to the bench by President Jimmy Carter on November 13, 1980, to serve the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit; after his confirmation in December 1980, Justice Breyer would serve in that capacity until December 1994; and

WHEREAS, during his time with the First Circuit, Justice Breyer served as a member of the Judicial Conference of the United States from 1990 to 1994 and on the United States Sentencing Commission from 1985 to 1989; and

WHEREAS, on May 17, 1994, Stephen Gerald Breyer was nominated to the United States Supreme Court by President Bill Clinton and confirmed by the U.S. Senate on July 29, 1994; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Justice Stephen Breyer has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his fellow members of the bench and bar, the parties appearing before his courts, and the citizens of the State of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Justice Stephen Gerald Breyer on his exemplary tenure on the United States Supreme Court, applaud his commitment to justice and impartiality under the law, and extend our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.